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Gray-Ide Bible Records

Contributed, with notes

By RICHARD LEBARON BOWEN

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GRAY-IDE BIBLE RECORDS

Contributed, with notes, by RICHARD LEBARON BOWEN, of Rehoboth, Mass.

The following records have been copied from a Bible printed and published by Mathew Cary (Philadelphia, 1811), now in the possession of Mrs. George H. Carpenter of Pleasant Street, East Providence, R. I. Mrs. Carpenter (née Grace A. Balch) is the great-granddaughter of Church Gray. Only a few of these Bible entries are found in the Seekonk and Rehoboth vital records. Those in the Seekonk records are marked with an * and those in Rehoboth with a †.

FAMILY RECORD

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Marriages

- * Church Gray & Sally Ide were married April 5th, 1812.¹
- William I Gray & Philena B. Barnaby were married September 5, 1838.
- Church Gray & Ann Emily Allyn were married Feb. 22nd, AD 1842.
- * Alvah Gray & Elizabeth Bromily were married April 25th AD 1842²
- Samuel Gray & Angeline Moore were married May 4th, AD 1843.
- Abby Maria Gray & Oliver Chaffee were married June 13th 1848.³
- Sally Ann Gray & John W. Stanley were married Sept. 15th. 1849.
- Angeline Gray & Phila Goodwyn were married May 1849.

Births

- † Jonathan Ide born July 4th, 1760.⁴
- Sarah Ide born November 25th, 1765.
- The children of the above Jonathan & Sarah born as follows, viz:
- † Elpalet Ide July 29th, 1786.⁵
- Ezra Ide 3rd, August 20th, 1789.
- † William Ide born April 14th, 1765 & Sarah his wife Nov. 25th, 1765.
- The names of their children, viz.:
- Sally Ide born Sept. 13th, 1792.
- † Sally Ide born Oct. 15th, 1794.
- † William Ide born May 27th, 1797.⁶
- † Betsey Ide born Oct. 18, 1801.
- † Nathaniel Ide Junior born August 28th, 1774.⁷
- Sarah his wife born Nov. 25th, 1765.
- † Betsey Ide daughter of Nathl Ide & Sarah Ide born November 21st, 1804.⁸

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Names & Births of the children of Sam¹ Gray and Deborah his wife:

¹ "Both of Seekonk, m. by Rev. John Hill" (Arnold's Seekonk *Vital Records*).

² Alvah Gray m. Elizabeth Brambray of Attleboro April 2, 1842 (*ibid.*).

³ Abby Maria, of Church and Sally (Ide) Gray, and Oliver Chaffee, of Caleb and Leaffee, both born and of Seekonk, m. Jan. 13, 1848 by Rev. James O. Barney (*ibid.*). This date is incorrect. The extant "intentions certificate" was issued by Town Clerk Caleb Abell on 16 March 1848, indorsed by the minister that he performed the marriage on 13th June.

⁴ Son of Ezra and Sarah (Arnold's Rehoboth *Vital Records*).

⁵ Born July 20, 1786 (*ibid.*).

⁶ William, son of William and Sarah Ide, m. Amanda⁷ Bishop, of Phennuel Jr., and Eunice Walker, Sept. — 1823, both of Seekonk, Rev. Bartlett Pearce officiating (*ibid.*). He is the brother of Church Gray's wife Sally. His 2½ story house is still standing on Pawtucket Avenue near the junction of Greenwood Avenue.

⁷ Son of Nathaniel and Lydia (*ibid.*).

⁸ Nathaniel Ide "Jr." (*ibid.*).

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Hannah Gray born Nov. 8th, 1751.
 Falle Gray " April 23rd, 1754.
 John Gray " March 20th, 1756.
 Simeon Gray " April 15th, 1758.
 Lydia Gray " Jan. 27th, 1761.
 Elizabeth Gray " July 23rd, 1763.
 Samuel Gray " Sept. 27th, 1765.
 Thomas Gray " April 20th, 1769.
 Jonathan Gray " March 9th, 1771.
 Joshua L. Gray " Nov. 10th, 1773.
 Nath¹ Gray " March 20th, 1776.
 Loring & Benjamin Gray born Feb. 5, 1779.
 John Gray born March 20th, 1756, on Sunday:
 Elizabeth Gray his wife born May 30th, 1762.

Births of their children:

Simeon Gray born March 3rd, 1785.
 *Church Gray " April 13th, 1787.
 Hannah Gray " March 2nd, 1789.
 Deborah Gray " Sept. 26th, 1791.
 John Gray " Nov. 11th, 1793.
 *Lydia Gray⁹ " March 19th, 1796.
 Eliza Gray " July 22nd, 1798.
 Sally Gray " Oct. 8th, 1799.
 Amasa Gray " Jan. 13th, 1801.
 Mariah Gray " April 29th, 1803.
 Ira Gray " June 14th, 1805.

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Church Gray born April 13th, 1787.
 Sally Gray his wife born October 15th, 1794.

Births of their children:

- * William Ide Gray born Sept. 15th, 1813.¹⁰
on Wednesday
- * Sally Ann Gray born Nov. 26th, 1814.¹¹
on Tuesday
- * Church Gray Ju. born June 20th, 1816.¹²
- * Samuel Gray born Feb. 18th, 1818 on Thursday.
- * Alvah Gray born Feb. 4th, 1820 on Friday.¹³
- * Eliza Gray born October 17th, 1821 on Wednesday.
- * Abby Maria Gray born May 20th, 1824 on Thursday.
- * John Gray born December 7th, 1828 on Sunday.
- * Henry Walter Gray born July 29th, 1832 on Sunday.

Deaths

Sally Gray Daughter of John & Elizabeth died June 4th, 1800.

John Gray, son of John & Elizabeth Gray died April 19th, 1820, aged 26 years 5 months & 8 days.

John Gray son of Samuel & Deborah died September 29th, 1820, aged 64 years 6 months 9 days.

⁹ Lydia Gray of Little Compton, of John, and John Shorey of Seekonk, of Abel, m. 27 Nov. 1826 by Rev. Emerson Paine (Arnold's Seekonk *Vital Records*).

Lydia G. Shorey, wife of Dea. Joh., dau. of John and Elizabeth Gray, b. Rhode Island, d. April 11, 1855, 59 y 0 m, 23 days (Arnold's Seekonk *Vital Records*).

¹⁰ Born Sept. 5, 1813 (*ibid.*).

¹¹ Sally Ann Gray, dismissed to [Marietta] Ohio, Apr. 1, 1849.
(Newman Congregational Church *Membership Records*).

¹² Church, Jr., and Annie E. Allen, both Seekonk, m. Feb. 22, 1842 by Rev. James O. Barney (Arnold's Seekonk *Vital Records*).

¹³ George, of Alvah and Elizabeth Gray, b. 31 Dec. 1846 (*ibid.*).

* Eliza Gray daughter of Church & Sally Gray died August 30th, 1829, aged 7 years 10 months & 13 days.¹⁴

* Henry Walter Gray son of Church Gray & Sally Gray died¹⁴ March 15th, 1834, aged 1 year 7 months & 16 days.

Lucy Gray wife of Simeon Gray died October 13th, 1835, aged 48 years.

Amasa Gray died in Little Compton, Aug. 18th, 1892, aged 91 years, 7 months and 5 days.

Deborah Brown wife of Christopher Brown & Daughter of John & Elizabeth Gray died November 17th, 1835, aged 44 years 1 month 21 days.

Church Gray son of John and Elizabeth Gray, died Dec. 9th AD 1844, aged 57 years 7 months & 26 days.¹⁴

Samuel son of Church & Sally Gray died March 1845.

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Jonathan Ide died Nov. 20th 1790 aged 30 years 4 months & 16 days.

Ezra Ide son of Jonathan & Sarah Ide died Dec. 17th, 1790 aged 6 months 14 days.

William Ide died January 25th, 1802, aged 37 years 9 months & 11 days.

Elpalet Ide died on Thursday March 24th 1825, aged 38 years 7 months & 25 days.

Mrs. Sally I. Gray wife of Mr. Church Gray died Aug. 4th, 1849 on Saturday eve.¹⁴

Sally Ann Stanley daughter of Church & Sally I. Gray died Dec. 7, 1856.

In Pawtucket Oct. 28th 1882, Church Gray, son of the late Church and Sally I. Gray, of Seekonk, Mass., in the 67th year of his age. Funeral at his late residence No. 172 North Main Street, Pawtucket, Wednesday, November 1st, at 1 o'clock p.m.

In Tullahoma, Tenn., William I. Gray, died Mar. 7, 1893, eldest son of the late Church and Sally I. Gray, in his 80th year.

Ann E. Gray, born Jan. 14th, 1818, died April 22nd, 1901.

Sarah Ide died December 17th 1819 aged 54 years & 22 days.

Nathaniel Ide Junr died September 24th 1827 aged 53 years & 26 days.

Mrs. Sally Holmes wife of Orpheus Holmes & Daughter of Benjamin Gray died July 11th 1841 aged 31 years, as published in *Boston Courier*.

Nathaniel Gray son of Samuel & Deborah died Nov. 17th, 1835, aged 61 years.

Loring Gray son of Samuel & Deborah died Nov. 26th, 1815, aged 37 years.

Mrs. Elizabeth Gray wife of John Gray died Nov. 16th, 1848.

Mrs. Hannah Wilbour wife of Wright Wilbour and daughter of John & Elizabeth Gray, died July 1844.

Among the loose papers in this Bible are many interesting newspaper obituary notices, but unfortunately the names of the newspapers and the year dates are not given. The four record pages in the Bible were not enough to cover all of the family records. These additions are written on unattached pages as follows:

Church Gray born April 13th 1787, died aged 57 years 9 mos. & 26 days.¹⁴

Sally I. Gray, born October 15th, 1794, died Aug. 4, 1849; aged 54 years, 9 mos. 20 days.¹⁴

Samuel Gray died March 1845; his wife Angeline Goodwin died Feb. 1860.

Eliza Gray died Aug. 30th, 1829, aged 7 years 10 months & 13 days.

* Henry Walter Gray died March 15th, 1834, aged 1 year 7 months 16 days.¹⁴

Sally Ann Stanley died Dec. 7th, 1856; Philina Gray died Oct. 10 1862.

Elizabeth Gray died Aug. 2d, 1863, aged 41 years. 6 mo.

Wm. Ide born April 14th, 1765 & died Jan. 25th, 1802, aged 37 years 9 mo.

¹⁴ Church GRAY and Sally Ide, his wife children:

Eliza, 7y 10m 13d, d. Aug. 30, 1829

Henry Walter, 1y 7m 16d, d. Mar. 15, 1834

Church, above, 57y 7m 26d, d. Dec. 9, 1844

Church died in Little Compton, 57y 8m 4d, d. Dec. 9, 1844

Sally I., widow, daughter of William and

Sally Ide, 54y 9m 19d, d. Aug. 4, 1849

[Arnold's Seekonk *Vital Records*].

& 11 days.

Sarah Ide his wife, born Nov. 25th, 1765 & died Dec. 17, 1819, aged 54 yrs. & 22 days.

John Gray born March 20, 1756 & died Sept. 29th, 1820, aged 64 yrs. 6 mo. & 9 days.

Elizabeth Gray, his wife, born May 30, 1762 & died Nov. 16, 1848, aged 86 yrs. 5 mo. 16 days.

Wm. I. Gray married Jennie Cunningham Oct. 5, 1863.

Alvah Gray died Oct. 30th, 1872, aged 52 yrs. 8 mo. 26 days.

Willie Perry Gray, son of Alvah & Josephine, died of croup 22 Feb. 1874, aged 2 yrs. 6 mo. 3 days.

Alvah Gray married Josephine M. Perry June 15th, 1864.

John Gray was married to Mrs. Sarah C. Shepard.

John Gray died in San Francisco, Cal., Jan. 20, 1873, aged 45 yrs. 1 mo. 13 days.

My [?] grandmother Ide married three men by the name of Ide none of which were related to one another. My Grandfather William Ide only lived to be 37 yrs. 9 mos. and 11 days old.

CHURCH FAMILY FROM RICHARD WARREN TO JOHN GRAY

Richard Warren came in the *Mayflower*, Nov. 21, 1620. He married Esther Juatt. His wife and five daughters came in the *Ann* in 1623.

Richard Church came in 1630 and married Elizabeth Warren, daughter of Richard. He made his will Dec. 25, 1668 and died a few days later aged 60 years.

The family line is as follows and found thus on the *Church* stones in the Little Compton cemetery.

1608 Richard 1668.

1638 Joseph 1711—His brother was the celebrated Indian warrior Benjamin Church.

1663 Joseph 1715.

1701 Caleb 1769.

1725 Ebenezer 1825—His daughter is the Elizabeth Church who married John Gray, our ancestor.

GRAY

1. Edward Gray, b. 1629.
2. Edward Gray, b. Plymouth, Massachusetts, Jan. 3, 1666; m. Dorothy Lettice, dau. of Thomas and Ann; he first settled at Tiverton, Rhode Island. He bought a farm for his son Philip at Little Compton, Rhode Island. The Grays have occupied this farm for more than 200 years.
3. Samuel Gray (1682-1712), m. 1699, Deborah Church.
4. Samuel Gray (1700-1764), m. Hannah Hunt.¹⁵
5. Samuel Gray (1726-1813), m. 1750, Deborah Peck.
6. John Gray (1756-1820), m. 1783, Elizabeth Church.
7. Church Gray (1787-1844), m. 1812, Sally Ide.

FRENCH

Elkanah French m. Sarah Wilmarth.

Sarah French, b. 25 Nov. 1765; d. Dec. 17, 1819; m. (2) William Ide.

Sally Ide, b. 15 Oct. 1794; d. 4 Aug. 1849; m. Apr. 5, 1812, Church Gray.

Abby W. Gray, b. 20 May 1824; d. Nov. 1896; m. June 15, 1848, Oliver Chaffee.

J. Irvin Chaffee, b. 3 Jan. 1861.

Frances M. Chaffee, b. 15 Feb. 1891.

CHAFFEE

Thomas¹ Chaffee, d. about 1683; m. Dorothy —, prob. brd. at Barrington.

Nathaniel² Chaffee, b. between 1638 and 1642; d. Sept. 1721; m. 19 Aug. 1669, Experience Bliss; probably brd. at Barrington.

Jonathan³ Chaffee, b. Apr. 7, 1678; d. Dec. 31, 1766; m. Nov. 23, 1703, Hannah

¹⁵ A Samuel Gray of Bristol and Hannah Kent of Barrington, m. 2 Feb. 1731 by Samuel Torrey, minister of Barrington (original Barrington *Vital Records*, Book I, p. 185a).

Carpenter, brd. at East Providence Centre.

Daniel⁴ Chaffee, b. Feb. 6, 1710; d. bef. Dec. 10, 1790; m. Nov. 9, 1736, Mary Robinson.

Rev. Jonathan⁵ Chaffee, b. Oct. 16, 1742; d. Aug. 7, 1800; m. Nov. 27, 1766, Mary Comer; brd. East Providence Centre.

Jonathan⁶ Chaffee, b. Feb. 16, 1769; died Nov. 15, 1811; m. May 6, 1792, Lephe Carpenter; brd. East Providence Centre.

Caleb⁷ Chaffee, b. Apr. 3, 1794; d. Aug. 1, 1880; m. (1) Nov. 23, 1815, Lephe Ormsbee; m. (2) Apr. 28, 1841, Pamela A. Allen; brd. East Providence Centre.

Oliver⁸ Chaffee, b. Dec. 18, 1822; d. May 8, 1883; m. June 5, 1848, Abby M. Gray; brd. East Providence Centre.

Abby⁹ Maria Chaffee, m. June 13, 1876, Charles E. Balch. Only child, Grace A. Balch.

C. Frank⁹ Chaffee, b. June 2, 1849. No issue.

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According to family tradition, Church Gray came from Little Compton, R. I., to Rehoboth, soon after to become Seekonk, Mass., to work in and later to manage the "Cove Factory" at the Ten Mile River falls at the head of Seekonk Cove, now called Omega Pond. "In 1836, the mill was operated by Bosworth, Blake & Co. and had 3,000 spindles, 72 looms, and employed about 60 hands in the manufacture of cotton cloths of No. 30" (Bliss, *History of Rehoboth*).

Another tradition is that William Ide, whose daughter later married Church Gray, lived near the factory in the house which with many later additions, is now the commodious club-house of the Agawam Hunt. After his marriage in 1812, Church Gray first lived in the old brick Phaniel "Bishop" house which stood on what is now Greenwood Avenue. He soon built a substantial 2½ story house, a perfect architectural example of the period. Years later it was purchased by his son-in-law, and now known as the "Oliver Chaffee house," is still standing at 284 Pleasant Street as sound as the day it was built, minus the old fireplace chimney which was removed in 1921.

Church Gray held many Seekonk town offices. On 3 March 1823 he was elected Selectman in place of William Ide who declined to serve. He was chairman of the Selectmen for four years from 1829 to 1832. On 5 March 1832 he was chairman of a committee to purchase a town poor farm; and Representative to the General Assembly at Boston for three years from 1832 to 1835. In 1830, when the Commonwealth ordered maps made of all of the towns, he had charge of preparing the 1830 map of the Town of Seekonk. Joseph Capron, Esq., of Attleborough was the surveyor (*Seekonk Town Records*). The map was finished in 1831 and as No. 1896 is still on file at the State house in Boston.

Mrs. Carpenter has oil portraits of Church Gray, said to have been painted by Gilbert Stuart, and of his only two surviving daughters, Abby Maria Gray painted when she was 18 years of age, and of her sister Sally Ann Gray, both by an anonymous artist. Also, a small alphabetical sampler made by Sally Ide of Rehoboth when a child.

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